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Message Text

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72
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 HEW-08 JUSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 SR-02 ORM-03 /124 W
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R 302117Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9608

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 4508

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CI, PINS, SOCI
SUBJECT: RECENT INTERNAL SECURITY DEVELOPMENTS

1. SUMMARY. MIN DEFENSE BONILLA PUBLICLY STATED ONLY ONE OR TWO PERSONS A DAY ARE PRESENTLY BEING DETAINED ON SECURITY GROUNDS. GOC SECURITY FORCES REPORTEDLY UNCOVERED IMPORTANT LEFTIST ARSENAL IN SANTIAGO AREA. AIR FORCE TRIALS RESULTS EXPECTED MOMENTARILY, WHILE RETRIAL OF MIR MEMBERS IN TEMUCO BEGINS. LEFTIST LEAFLETS ARE APPEARING IN SANTIAGO AND VALPARAISO. OAS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IS CONTINUING WORK AND VISITED SOME OF "DAWSON ISLAND" GROUP OF SENIOR ALLENDE GOVT FIGURES OVER WEEKEND. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING CONVERSATION WITH REPORTS JULY 29, MIN DEFENSE (FORMER MIN INTERIOR) BONILLA STATED THAT NUMBER OF PERSONS BEING ARRESTED FOR SECURITY REASONS HAS DROPPED SHARPLY. ACCORDING TO BONILLA, WHEREAS IN LATE 1973 THE VARIOUS INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES WERE DETAINING UP TO 100 PERSONS A DAY, AVERAGE HAS NOW DROPPED TO "ONE OR TWO A DAY." BONILLA MADE SHARP DISTINCTION BETWEEN THOSE PERSONS DETAINED BY MILITARY INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES ON SECURITY GROUNDS AND THOSE INVOLVED IN POLICE ROUNDUPS OF PURPORTED COMMON CRIMINALS (SANTIAGO 4446).

3. SANTIAGO PRESS JULY 30 REPORTED DISCOVERY BY GOC SECURITY FORCES PREVIOUS EVENING OF "MAJOR" ARSENAL IN CONCHALI AREA
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OF CAPITAL. PURPORTEDLY FOUND WERE QUANTITIES OF MACHINEGUNS,

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SMALL ARMS, MUNITIONS, EXPLOSIVES, A PRINTING PRESS "BELONGING TO THE CHRISTIAN LEFT," AND DOCUMENTS RELATING TO "PLAN Z" INCLUDING ADDRESSES AND MOVEMENTS OF IMPORTANT MILITARY OFFICERS AND LEADING POLITICIANS OPPOSED TO ALLENDE GOVT. GOC'S LA PATRIA IDENTIFIED ARSENAL AS BELONGING TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF COMMUNIST PARTY. TWO PERSONS WERE REPORTEDLY DETAINED, DAVID MARAMBIO, IDENTIFIED IN SOME PAPERS AS FORMER MEMBER OF ALLENDE'S BODYGUARD FORCE (GAP), AND JUAN CRUZ ORELLANA, REPORTEDLY SOCIALIST PARTY MEMBER.

4. GOC ANNOUNCED SENTENCES IN AIR FORCE TRIAL WHICH BEGAN IN MID-APRIL WILL BE ISSUED AFTERNOON JULY 30.

5. RETRIAL OF SOME 23 MIR MEMBERS IN TEMUCO SCHEDULED TO BEGIN JULY 30. GROUP WAS ORIGINALLY CONVICTED IN LATE MARCH, BUT SENTENCES WERE SUBSEQUENTLY VACATED, FOR TECHNICAL REASONS, BY MILITARY REVIEWING AUTHORITY.

6. LEAFLETS PURPORTEDLY ISSUED BY FORMER UP PARTIES HAVE APPEARED RECENTLY ON SANTIAGO AND VALPARAISO STREETS. ASKED TO COMMENT, MIN DEFENSE BONILLA MINIMIZED THEIR IMPORTANCE BUT VOWED TO MAINTAIN STRICT SECURITY MEASURES. EMBASSY HAS SEEN ONE SUCH LEAFLET FOUND IN VALPARAISO AND SIGNED BY COMMUNIST PARTY. LEAFLETS LISTS SUCH "ANTI-POPULAR" GOC MEASURES AS ECONOMIC POLICY AND DETENTIONS, CALLS ON CITIZENS TO JOIN IN "ANTI-FASCIST STRUGGLE," BUT STOPS SHORT OF SPECIFIC CALL FOR ARMED ACTION.

7. OAS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CONTINUES WORK. LAST WEEKEND COMMISSION VISITED PART OF "DAWSON ISLAND" GROUP OF SENIOR UP PERSONALITIES BEING HELD IN MILITARY INSTALLATION ON COAST NORTH OF VALPARAISO. COMMISSION HAS ALSO HELD SEVERAL WELL PUBLICIZED MEETINGS WITH GOC OFFICIALS, SUPREMME COURT, AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM COMMISSION.

8. COMMENT. BONILLA'S REMARKS ON RATE OF SECURITY DETENTIONS REAFFIRM WHAT HE TOLD SECRETARY OF ARMY CALLAWAY PRIVATELY JULY 22 (SANTIAGO 4315). THIS IS FIRST TIME WE CAN RECALL PUBLIC MENTION BY SENIOR GOC OFFICIAL OF ARREST RATE. WE HAVE NO DIRECT WAY OF CONFIRMING GOC DETENTION STATISTICS.
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BONILLA'S FIGURES SEEM SLIGHTLY LOW BUT COINCIDE GENERALLY WITH OUR IMPRESSION OF CURRENT SITUATION.
POPPER

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